

5. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide consisting of a sequence selected from the group consisting of RRTSLQCKQTTASADS (SEQ ID NO:34), RRASLQSKETTAAGDS (SEQ ID NO:35), RRKALQSKETTAAGDS (SEQ ID NO:36), RRTALQCKQTTASADS (SEQ ID NO:37) and RRASLQCKQTTASADS (SEQ ID NO:38).

6. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising  $X_{aa0}RX_{aa1}X_{aa2}$  (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein  $X_{aa0}$  is Arg or Lys, and  $X_{aa1}$  and  $X_{aa2}$  are any amino acids.

7. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 5, wherein  $X_{aa1}$  is selected from Lys, Thr, or Ala; and  $X_{aa2}$  is selected from Serine or Ala.

8. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 6, wherein  $X_{aa0}$  is Arg.

9. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 7, wherein  $X_{aa1}$  is selected from Lys, Thr, or Ala; and  $X_{aa2}$  is Ser or Ala.

10. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 6, wherein  $X_{aa0}$  is Lys.

11. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 10, wherein  $X_{aa1}$  is selected from Lys, Thr, or Ala; and  $X_{aa2}$  is Ser or Ala.

12. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 8 or 10, wherein the tetrameric sequence coincides with the native sequence of a mammalian IL-16.

13. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of RRKS (SEQ ID NO:2), RRTS (SEQ ID NO:3), KRKS (SEQ ID NO:4), RRAS (SEQ ID NO:5), RRKA (SEQ ID NO:6) and RRTA (SEQ ID NO:7).

14. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising  $X_{aa1}X_{aa2}X_{aa0}R$  (SEQ ID NO:8), wherein  $X_{aa0}$  is Arg or Lys, and  $X_{aa1}$  and  $X_{aa2}$  are any amino acids.

15. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 14, wherein  $X_{aa1}$  is Val and  $X_{aa2}$  is Ile or Leu.

16. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 14, wherein X<sub>aa0</sub> is Arg.

17. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 16, wherein X<sub>aa1</sub> is Val and X<sub>aa2</sub> is Ile or Leu.

18. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 14, wherein X<sub>aa0</sub> is Lys.

19. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 18, wherein X<sub>aa1</sub> is Val and X<sub>aa2</sub> is Leu or Ile.

20. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 12 or 14, wherein the tetrameric sequence coincides with the native sequence of a mammalian IL-16.

21. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of VIRR (SEQ ID NO:9), VLRR (SEQ ID NO:10) and VIKR (SEQ ID NO:11).

22. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising X<sub>aa1</sub>X<sub>aa0</sub>RX<sub>aa2</sub> (SEQ ID NO:12), wherein X<sub>aa0</sub> is Arg or Lys, and X<sub>aa1</sub> and X<sub>aa2</sub> are any amino acids.

23. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 22, wherein X<sub>aa1</sub> is Ile or Leu and X<sub>aa2</sub> is Lys, Thr or Ala.

24. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 22, wherein X<sub>aa0</sub> is Arg.

25. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 24, wherein X<sub>aa1</sub> is selected from Ile or Leu and X<sub>aa2</sub> is Lys, Thr or Ala.

26. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 22, wherein X<sub>aa0</sub> is Lys.

27. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 26, wherein X<sub>aa1</sub> is selected from Leu or Ile; and X<sub>aa2</sub> is Lys, Thr or Ala.

28. (Amended) The isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide of Claim 24 or 26, wherein the tetrameric sequence coincides with the native sequence of a mammalian IL-16.

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29. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of IRRK (SEQ ID NO:13), IRRT (SEQ ID NO:14), LRRK (SEQ ID NO:15) and IKRK (SEQ ID NO:16).

30. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of RRKSLQ (SEQ ID NO:17), RRTSLQ (SEQ ID NO:18), RRKSCM (SEQ ID NO:19), KRKSMQ (SEQ ID NO:20), RRASLQ (SEQ ID NO:21), RRKALQ (SEQ ID NO:22) and RRTALQ (SEQ ID NO:23).

31. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of RRKSLQSK (SEQ ID NO:24), RRTSLQCK (SEQ ID NO:25), RRKSLQPK (SEQ ID NO:26), RRKSCMSK (SEQ ID NO:27), KRKSMQSK (SEQ ID NO:28), RRASLQSK (SEQ ID NO:29), RRKALQSK (SEQ ID NO:30), RRTALQCK (SEQ ID NO:31) and RRASLQCK (SEQ ID NO:32).

32. (Amended) An isolated IL-16 antagonist peptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of RRTSLQCKQTTASADS (SEQ ID NO:34), RRASLQSKETTAAGDS (SEQ ID NO:35), RRKALQSKETTAAGDS (SEQ ID NO:36), RRTALQCKQTTASADS (SEQ ID NO:37) and RRASLQCKQTTASADS (SEQ ID NO:38).

33. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule coding for the isolated peptide according to any one of Claims 2-4, 6, 14 or 22.

C6 34. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the isolated peptide of any of Claims 2-4, 6, 14 or 22 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.